

Renato Constantino, Jr.

June 4, 1994

Shared with the participants at the closing session of the
Asia-Pacific Conference on East Timor

Not Alone

Alien cultures
Different histories
Faces I do not know
Names stranger still.

I am she who has not been degraded a thousand times
For we are not around.
He is me who has not been exterminated
For we do not exist.
They are my people who have no tomorrow for we have been robbed of
our past.
Because we never were.

But I look into his eyes and feel her heart beat...
We are alive
We sing in the night of tomorrow's sunrise
We live for today and fight for our birth.

She called me black
He called me brother
And I am
We are.

But we fight alone
In our little worlds we are alone
In the solitude of our togetherness we fight for freedom.
I cannot fight your battles;
You cannot win mine.
But cheer me on
As I do you

We shall intensify our struggles
Even as we draw inspiration from each other.
And when we have won our victories
We will embrace across the oceans
In the dignity of our liberation
Never again to be alone.